

Date: Thu, 25 Feb 93 22:59:43 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #258
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 25 Feb 93 Volume 93 : Issue 258

Today's Topics:

Alinco DJ-160 assistance request.
Allison Peacock -- KD4NNH/AG
Daily IPS Report - 13 Feb 93
Daily IPS Report - 16 Feb 93
Daily IPS Report - 18 Feb 93
Daily IPS Report - 19 Feb 93
DX Bulletin 11 ARLD011
New Kenwood HF Radio TS-50
Weekly IPS Report - 19 Feb 93

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 26 Feb 93 05:57:50 GMT
From: ogicse!flop.ENGR.ORST.EDU!gaia.ucs.orst.edu!umn.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!
mont@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Alinco DJ-160 assistance request.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <C2pELB.G02@usenet.ucs.indiana.edu> jltaylor@bronze.ucs.indiana.edu
(Jeff Taylor) writes:

>I have an Alinco DJ-160 and I was attempting to
>open the radio so I could "look around inside".
>I ran into a bit of trouble after removing the
>two long black screws, and the 5 tiny silver
>screws, and the two screws that hold the 'clip'.
>The radio seems to be three sections: the front

>(keys, buttons, etc), the top (off/on switch,
>display), and the back (where the screws and
>the 'clip' were located). The radio seems to
>open up a bit from gently prying the bottom,
>but the top refuses to budge, like it is
>still connected to something. Does the top
>section "pop off" or something? That is about
>where the radio refused to open. The maximum
>I could get the bottom apart was about 3/8".

Whatever you do don't force it! Ok, now remove
the knobs on top if you have not already. If
you look close you'll see slots in the rings
around the shafts. These are nuts that hold
the top in place. I took them off on mine
by gently turning them with a screwdriver.
Becareful not to scratch the case around the
shafts. :)

73,

--

Mont Pierce

```
+-----+
| Ham Call: KM6WT           Internet:  mont@netcom.com      |
|   bands: 80/40/20/2       IBM vnet:  mont@vnet.ibm.com    |
|   modes: cw,ssb,fm        |                               |
|   qth: Fremont, CA        Religion:  Jehovah's Witnesses  9/72 |
+-----+
```

Date: Thu, 25 Feb 93 21:21:55 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!n1mpq!system@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Allison Peacock -- KD4NNH/AG
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

tccline@hplvec.LVLD.HP.COM (Ted Cline) writes:

```
> > Michael P. Deignan, KD1HZ | --- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-
> > Domain: mpd@anomaly.sbs.com | -- --- - - - - - . --- .- .- .- .- .-
> > UUCP: uunet!anomaly!mpd | ..- --- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-
> > Telebit: +1 401 455 0347 | .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-
>
>           ^
>           ^
>           our repeater
>           motto no codes
>           for nocodes
```

```

> renl hnms
> ^ ^
> ^ ^ - Then please improve your quality.
>
>
> ----
> Ted Cline, NØRQV                VXI Systems Division
> tcline@hpslxl.lvld.hp.com       Hewlett-Packard, M/S CU-325
> ted_cline@hpsla.lvld.hp.com     815 14th Street SW
> VOICE: (303) 679-2352           P.O. Box 301
> FAX:   (303) 679-5971          Loveland, CO 80537 USA
>

```

```

-- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-
-- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-
-- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-

```

```

-- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .- .-

```

```

-----
-- Tony Pelliccio, N1MPQ/AA        // Why do some hams run 20mW      //
-- god @ garlic.sbs.com            // into a stub-duddy in a car    //
-----// and wonder why they can't //
-- Flame Retardent Sysadmin       // hit a repeater?           //
-----

```

```

-- A man who feels sees life as a tragedy, a man who thinks sees --
-- life as a comedy. (As found in a fortune cookie)             --
-----

```

```

-----
Date: 16 Feb 93 06:29:09 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!munnari.oz.au!metro!mippet.ci.com.au!eram!
dave@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Daily IPS Report - 13 Feb 93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

```

```

IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES AUSTRALIA
Daily Solar And Geophysical Report
Issued at 2330 UT 12 February 1993
Summary for 12 February and Forecast up to 15 February
No IPS warning is current.
-----

```

1A. SOLAR SUMMARY

Activity: low

Flares	Max	Fadeout	Begin	End	Freq	Sectors
C5/1F	0045UT	confirmed	0055UT	0105UT	lower	West Pacific

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 149/102

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	13 February	14 February	15 February
Activity	Moderate	Low to moderate	Low to moderate
Fadeouts	Possible	Possible	Possible

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 140/093

1C. SOLAR COMMENT

None.

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : active 00-03UT, and quiet thereafter.

Estimated Indices :	A	K	Observed A Index 11 February
Learmonth	08	4222 1112	
Fredericksburg	14		17
Planetary	12		14

2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : mostly quiet to unsettled, with isolated active periods possible.

Ap : 15

2C. MAGNETIC COMMENT

None.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

Propagation conditions :

Low Lats: good.

Mid Lats: good.

High Lats: poor to fair.

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation conditions are expected to be good at low and mid lats, and poor to fair at high lats.

3C. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION COMMENT

None.

4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY

MUFs at Sydney were near Feb predicted levels 00-01UT and from 19UT onwards, otherwise enhanced by 10-40%.

Observed Sydney Regional Ionospheric Index : 94

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST

	13 February	14 February	15 February
MUFs	enhanced 10 to 20%	enhanced 10 to 20%	enhanced 10 to 20%
T index	90	85	85

Predicted Monthly Ionospheric Index for February is 60.

4C. AUSTRALIAN REGION COMMENT

None.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU)
dave@esi.COM.AU

VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC
...munari!esi.COM.AU!dave

Date: 16 Feb 93 06:33:25 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!munari.oz.au!metro!mippet.ci.com.au!eram!
dave@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Daily IPS Report - 16 Feb 93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES AUSTRALIA

Daily Solar And Geophysical Report

Issued at 2330 UT 15 February 1993

Summary for 15 February and Forecast up to 18 February

No IPS warning is current.

1A. SOLAR SUMMARY

Activity: low

Flares: none.

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 135/087

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	16 February	17 February	18 February
Activity	Low	Low	Low
Fadeouts	None expected	None expected	None expected

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 130/082

1C. SOLAR COMMENT

None.

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : unsettled 12-15UT, and otherwise quiet.

Estimated Indices :	A	K	Observed A Index 14 February
Learmonth	07	2222 3121	
Fredericksburg	05		07
Planetary	06		05

2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : quiet

Ap : 08

2C. MAGNETIC COMMENT

None.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

Propagation conditions :

Low Lats: good.

Mid Lats: good.

High Lats: poor to fair.

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation conditions are expected to be good at low and mid lats, and poor to fair at high lats.

3C. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION COMMENT

None.

4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY

MUFs at Sydney were near Feb predicted levels 00-13UT, and 15-30% enhanced thereafter.

Observed Sydney Regional Ionospheric Index : 80

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST

	16 February	17 February	18 February
MUFs	enhanced 10 to 30%	enhanced 10 to 20%	enhanced 10 to 20%
T index	100	80	80

Predicted Monthly Ionospheric Index for February is 60.

4C. AUSTRALIAN REGION COMMENT

Sporadic E layer was observed throughout yesterday, and is again expected at times today.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU)
dave@esi.COM.AU

VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC
...munhari!esi.COM.AU!dave

Date: 18 Feb 93 05:54:40 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!munhari.oz.au!metro!mippet.ci.com.au!eram!
dave@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Daily IPS Report - 18 Feb 93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES AUSTRALIA

Daily Solar And Geophysical Report

Issued at 2330 UT 17 February 1993

Summary for 17 February and Forecast up to 20 February

IPS Warning No. 03, issued on 17 FEB, is still current.

1A. SOLAR SUMMARY

Activity: High

Flares	Max	Fadeout	Begin	End	Freq.	Sectors
M5/SF	1040UT	probable				all European/Indian

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 124/076

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	18 February	19 February	20 February
Activity	Low	Low	Low
Fadeouts	None expected	None expected	None expected

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 120/071

1C. SOLAR COMMENT

The region which produced the M5 flare has rounded the west limb.

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : a sudden commencement occurred at 0257UT raising a quiet field to active conditions until 09UT. Minor

to major storm levels occurred 09-18UT, with the field subsiding to quiet levels for the rest of the day.

Estimated Indices :	A	K	Observed A Index 16 February
Learmonth	43	2445 7623	
Fredericksburg	30		06
Planetary	35		07

2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : quiet to unsettled with active periods possible, particularly during night hours.

Ap : 18

2C. MAGNETIC COMMENT

This disturbance may have been the result of a filament disappearance on the 13th.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

Propagation conditions :

Low Lats: Normal.

Mid Lats: Normal.

High Lats: Poor.

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation conditions are expected to slowly improve at high latitudes today.

3C. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION COMMENT

None.

4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY

MUFs at Sydney were near predicted with 30-50% enhancements 06-12UT and 25% enhancements 18-19UT. Sporadic E obscured the F layer at 21 and 23UT.

T index: 104

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST

	18 February	19 February	20 February
MUFs	depressed to 40%	near normal	enhanced to 30%
T index	10	60	90

Predicted Monthly T Index for February is 60.

4C. AUSTRALIAN REGION COMMENT

Sporadic E likely to affect F layer communications, particularly

during daylight hours. Lower latitudes may experience depressions to 30%.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC
dave@esi.COM.AU ...munnar!esi.COM.AU!dave

Date: 19 Feb 93 04:47:58 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!munnar!oz.au!metro!mippet.ci.com.au!eram!
dave@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Daily IPS Report - 19 Feb 93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES AUSTRALIA
Daily Solar And Geophysical Report
Issued at 2330 UT 18 February 1993
Summary for 18 February and Forecast up to 21 February
No IPS warning is current.

1A. SOLAR SUMMARY

Activity: moderate

Flares	Max	Fadeout	Begin	End	Freq.	Sectors
M4/2B	0308UT	confirmed				low/mid E. Asia/Aust.
M1/1N	1003UT	none				
M1/1B	1106UT	none				

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 126/078

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	19 February	20 February	21 February
Activity	Moderate	Low to moderate	Low to moderate
Fadeouts	Possible	None expected	None expected

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 130/082

1C. SOLAR COMMENT

None.

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : quiet to unsettled with active levels 12-18UT.

Estimated Indices : A K Observed A Index 17 February

Learmonth	15	2223 4433	
Fredericksburg	11		27
Planetary	12		36

2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

Geomagnetic field at Learmonth : quiet to unsettled with active periods possible late in the forecast period.

Ap : 18

2C. MAGNETIC COMMENT

High latitudes experienced minor to major storm levels 12-15UT.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

Propagation conditions :

Low Lats: Normal.

Mid Lats: Normal.

High Lats: Poor.

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

Propagation conditions are expected to be improve at high latitudes before becoming degraded again tomorrow.

3C. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION COMMENT

None.

4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY

MUFs at Sydney were near predicted with depressions to 20% 01, 03-05UT. Sporadic E obscured the F layer at 02, 09-10UT, with sporadic E possibly degrading F layer communications 11-17UT. A daylight fadeout began at 0302UT and ended around 0410UT.

T index: 43

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST

	19 February	20 February	21 February
MUFs	near normal	depressed to 30%	near normal
T index	75	40	60

Predicted Monthly T Index for February is 60.

4C. AUSTRALIAN REGION COMMENT

Short wave fadeouts are likely today and sporadic E may disrupt F layer communications.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU)

VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC

dave@esi.COM.AU

...munnar!esi.COM.AU!dave

Date: 26 Feb 93 04:46:14 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!mstar!n8emr!
bulletin@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: DX Bulletin 11 ARLD011
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

=====
| Automatic relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-895-2553 |
=====

ZCZC AE37
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 11 ARLD011
>From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT
February 26, 1993
Relayed by KB8NW/OBS & BARF-80 BBS
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD011
ARLD011 DX news

Thanks to The DX Bulletin and QRZ DX for the items in this week's
bulletin.

WESTERN SAHARA. S0RASD has been worked on 20 through 10 meters from
the east coast. QSL via EA2JG.

MARKET REEF. OJ0/OH3AC fired up on Thursday morning. They have
been worked on the usual DX windows from 17 through 10 meters. This
operation is supposed to last through this weekend. QSL via home
call.

KINGMAN REEF. A twelve operator team will sail from Hawaii on
February 28 and operate /MM on their way to Kingman. This major
operation, consisting of four HF positions, 6 meter and satellite
stations, will sign N9NS/KH5K. Look for their CW on 1835, 3505,
7020, 10104, 14020, 18070, 21020, 24895 and 28020 kHz. RTTY will be
around 14080, 21080 and 28080 kHz. Check 1835, 3795, 7075, 14195,
18115, 21295, 24935 and 28495 for SSB.

PALMYRA ISLAND. The Kingman Reef team will set up two HF stations,
6 meters and satellite positions and operate as N0AFW/KH5
simultaneously.

SPRATLY ISLANDS. An eleven member, multi-national team will operate 9MOS from Malaysian occupied Pulau Layang-Layang, aka Swallow Reef, March 11 through 17. For CW try 1827, 3502/3522, 7002/7022, 10102, 14023, 18073, 21023, 24892 and 28023 kHz. SSB will be on 1827, 3972, 7065, 14190, 18103, 21290, 24932 and 28490 kHz. It is reported that their WARC band operating is pending receipt of permission from Malaysian authorities. QSL via PO Box 5127, Suffolk VA 23435.

BELAU. Tosy, JA6VZB, will be island hopping over the next few weeks. Look for him signing KC6VW, and JA6EGL signing either KC6SM or KC6MS from March 5 through 10. QSL KC6VW via JA6BSM. KC6SM or KC6MS cards go via JA6EGL.

NORTHERN MARIANAS. Then it's on to Rota Island as AH0AL, March 10 through 13. Watch for his RTTY and WARC band activity. QSL via JA6BSM.

MICRONESIA. JA6VZB and JA6EGL will sign V63BM and V63MK respectively, from late March through April 4. QSL V63MB via JA6BSM, and V63MK via JA6EGL.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. Here is the rundown on operating activities slated for the weekend of February 27 and 28. Work one, some or all.

CQ World Wide 160 Meter DX Contest, phone. Check December QST page 128. Look for ZF2TT by W6NLG. QSL via Box 60031, Sunnyvale CA 94088. Also, A92BE will be active from Bahrain.

REF French Contest, phone. Check December QST page 128 for details.

RSGB 7 MHz Contest, sponsored by the Radio Society This CW only event will be between 7000 and 7030 kHz. Check January QST page 117 for details.

YL OM Contest, CW. Check February QST page 115 for details.

The annual ARRL DX CONTEST on SSB is the weekend of March 6 and 7. Look for 9M6 from Eastern Malaysia, and J73E or J73EK from Dominica. Remember that Aeronautical and Maritime mobile QSOs will count for QSO credit, but NOT as multipliers, for US/Canada stations starting with this year's tests.

NNNN

Date: 24 Feb 93 19:25:57 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!sdd.hp.com!saimiri.prima.te.wisc.edu!
usenet.coe.montana.edu!logicse!flop.ENGR.ORST.EDU!gaia.ucs.orst.edu!umn.edu!
kksys.com!edgar!brainiac!moron!pillok!stevej@network.
Subject: New Kenwood HF Radio TS-50
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

flloyd@l1-a.West.Sun.COM (Fred Lloyd [Phoenix SE]) writes:

>
> We'll I'm surprised that nobody's mentioned this one yet, the new
> Kenwood TS-50!
>
> Well, I didn't buy one :-) but a friend of mine did and here's the
> scoop: (Fresh from a three day old sighting)
>
> The local HRO received three of the radios last Friday and were sold
> out within one hour. After seeing and playing with it a bit, it's easy
> to see why: it has to be the neatest mobile HF radio on the market today.
>
> Factoids:
>
> Kenwood TS-50 Mobile HF Transciever (Retail: \$1099)
>
> 160-10M General Coverage
> 100 memories
> 100 Watts - AM/FM/SSB/CW
> Band stacking registers
> Black-on-Orange LCD Display (like the TM-741 et. al.)
> Small size - very small size....
*****stuff deleted*****
> Conclusion: Yaesu and Icom caught with pants down! Kenwood strikes hard
> and fast with an instant hit! Steve sells his 2 month old Icom 735 for
> \$675! Ten Tec Amp blamed for burn-out of Sony Pixys GPS receiver!
> Steve, myself and Samuel Adams agree: Hey, this thing is really cool....
>
> -fred
>

I too was initially excited by this radio, but once again Kenwood has
alienated an entire group, VHF,ers.

1. Why not 6m?
2. Why no transverter capabilities?

Oh well, let's see if Icom or Yaseu gets a clue on the second go around!!

Steve KA0VYB

Date: 19 Feb 93 04:51:25 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!munnnari.oz.au!metro!mippet.ci.com.au!eram!
dave@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Weekly IPS Report - 19 Feb 93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

12 FEBRUARY - 18 FEBRUARY 1993

Issue No 08
Date of issue: 19 February, 1993

INDICES:

Date	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10cm	149	135	141	135	134	124	126
A	11	09	07	04	06	27	(11)
T	94	94	54	80	111	104	43

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY

February 12

Solar activity was low.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was active 00-03UT,
and quiet thereafter.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near
February predicted levels 00-01UT, 07-11UT and 19-23UT.
Frequencies at other times were 20-40% enhanced.

February 13

Solar activity was low.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet to unsettled.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near predicted
monthly values 00-05UT and 20-23UT, and otherwise enhanced 20-30%.

February 14

Solar activity was moderate, with an M2/2B flare at 1258UT.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near predicted
monthly values.

February 15

Solar activity was low.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was unsettled 12-15UT, and
otherwise quiet.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near February predicted values 00-14UT and 18-20UT, and enhanced to 30% otherwise.

.SK

February 16

Solar activity was moderate, with an M2/SF flare at 1429UT.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were enhanced on February predicted values 05-10UT, 14-23UT by 20-40% and near predicted otherwise. Spread F may have degraded F layer communications 11-14UT.

February 17

Solar activity was high, with an M5.8/SF flare at 1040UT.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet until a sudden commencement at 0257UT raised the field to active conditions until 09UT. Minor to major storm levels occurred 09-18UT with the field subsiding to quiet levels for the rest of the day.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near predicted with 30-50% enhancements 06-12UT and 25% enhancements 18-19UT.

Sporadic E obscured the F layer at 21 and 23UT.

February 18

Solar activity was moderate with an M4/2B flare at 0308UT and two M1 flares at 1003UT and 1106UT.

The geomagnetic field at Learmonth (WA) was quiet to unsettled with active levels 12-18UT.

Ionospheric F2 critical frequencies at Sydney were near predicted with depressions to 20% 01, 03-05UT. Sporadic E obscured the F layer at 02, 09-10UT, with sporadic E possibly degrading F layer communications 11-17UT. Daylight fadeout occurred 0302-0410UT at Sydney.

FORECAST FOR THE NEXT WEEK (19 - 25 FEBRUARY)

SOLAR: Low to moderate.

GEOMAGNETIC: Quiet to unsettled with active and possibly isolated minor storm periods 20th to 23rd.

IONOSPHERIC: Enhanced to 25% with frequencies near predicted February values 20th to 23rd. Sporadic E is likely to affect F layer communications throughout the week and particularly during 20-23rd. Daylight fadeouts may disrupt communications early in the week.

--

Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU)
dave@esi.COM.AU

VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC
...munnar!esi.COM.AU!dave

Date: Fri, 26 Feb 1993 04:44:59 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!cs.utexas.edu!usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!
news.unomaha.edu!cwis!pschleck@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Feb25.005736.12188@mksol.dseg.ti.com>,
<1993Feb25.114922.16051@ke4zv.uucp>, <1miu8kINN6lc@west.West.Sun.COM>
Subject : Re: too darn big!

flloyd@l1-a.West.Sun.COM (Fred Lloyd [Phoenix SE]) writes:

>In article <1993Feb25.114922.16051@ke4zv.uucp>
>gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:
>>In article <1993Feb25.005736.12188@mksol.dseg.ti.com> blair@dseg.ti.com writes:

>>>>We've split it twice before. It hasn't helped. The best solution is a
>>>>threaded newsreader, or if you get the group by mail, a smart mail
>>>>agent can do the same thing for you.

>>>

>>>How do you mean "it hasn't helped". Are the other boards active? If so,
>>>it did help or the newsgroup would be even worse.

>>>Art.

>>

>>Judge for yourself. The other two groups are rec.radio.amateur.packet
>>and rec.radio.amateur.policy. How many packet questions have you seen
>>here? How many on regulatory matters? The packet group gets used a bit
>>more, but the policy group is largely ignored. Neither has as much
>>volume *on their specific topics* as the general group. This indicates
>>to me that both are failures in moving these discussions off the general
>>group.

>>

[Uh-oh, Fred's in facetious mode again! :-)]

>Gary's right. The r.r.a.misc news group has a lot in common with
>the 20 Meter band. The most successful sub-group of ham radio is
>rec.radio.swap, but, lately it's been polluted with non-sale related
>commentary and advice.

Which you've participated in, I see. Actually, a quick scan of that
group shows mostly for-sale postings, with minimal followups (usually of
a "can't reach you by E-mail" variety). I think we can agree it's a
success overall.

>Rec.radio.amateur.policy is mostly the rathole-of-the-month section

>where any pet topic will be toasted to a crisp faster than you can
>say "CW sucks", "No-code ruins the hobby", or "Let's do away with
>testing", ad infinitum..... zzzzzzzzzzzzzzz... huh? What's that?....

Yes, but have you noticed that those flammable topics stay off of *.misc
and on *.policy where they can be either read with amusement or ignored?

>There are several ways to organize and regulate this newsgroup:

> a) Make it moderated.

Rec.radio.info tries to make a noise-free forum for information. Try it
sometime. As for a moderated discussion group, any volunteers?

> b) Appoint several "monitors" who will happily shout
> down and redirect any inappropriate postings.

Subtle, discrete, and polite peer-pressure is not necessarily a bad
thing. Kill-files can deal with the untrainable.

> c) Post a 100KB weekly r.r.a.m netetiquette treatise
> which serves as the gospel charter of the group.

A good-natured swipe at the FAQ, no doubt. Actually, I post Jay Maynard's
guide once a month. And for the most part, it's observed. I don't
think there is any commonly-agreed-upon "gospel," just suggested
guidelines, advice, and lessons-learned from experience.

When the FAQ was made available at the arrl.org mail-server, there were
4 requests a day for it (according to Ed Hare, KA1CV). But then again,
your comments weren't an FAQ flame, so I won't go too far off topic.

> d) Re-organize the ham radio newsgroups into hierarhical
> areas divided by the participant's license class.
> This way, just like on 20M, there will be more
> civilized and "gentlmanly" postings as you advance
> through the hobby.

Incentive licensing on Usenet? It hasn't worked too well on the air, I
don't think it would be a good working-model for the net (you're joking,
right?).

> e) Open up the secret, hidden newsgroup, rec.radio.amateur

Darn, he's discovered the secret!

> f) Reinstate the original rec.ham-radio hierarchy,
> abandoning the politically correct "amateur" terminology.

I sort of like everything under rec.radio.*, but then that's my opinion. During the re-org, it was pointed out that "ham" doesn't have much meaning outside of the US.

>(Uh Oh, this is starting to sound like a policy posting... is it
>policy or is it misc? What is policy anyway? Is policy just
>another euphamism for CW? Is .policy where civilized people go to
>rant and rave instead of exposing themselves in front of the .misc
>world? Well, it must be time to make a call for votes: how
>about rec.radio.amateur.emotional.topics?)

I think this qualifies as a "meta-discussion" which generally finds its way to news.groups. I agree that *.policy is starting to look more like comp.sys.amiga.advocacy than the W5YI Report, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. How about rec.radio.amateur.advocacy? (joke, please no cards and letters!)

I really think claims of this newsgroup currently being a "mess" are exaggerated. I've had the opportunity to peruse the archives for Info-Hams for the past few years, and it would appear that 1989 and 1990 had a significant amount of run-on and flammable threads (most notably No-Code), and a LOT of FAQ's being asked and inconsistently answered.

Let's not forget that the readership of this group has gone up. Just like LA pollution only holding the line after emission controls, this newsgroup could probably have wound up a lot more disorganized without charter postings, FAQ's, and pointers to archives and elmers (as well as alignment under the rec.radio.* heirarchy).

>Well, the whole mess we have here just goes to show that you can't
>trust people to abide by policy without physical barriers. That's
>why we have divided highways, that's why they have corral fences
>that show grown up people how to stand in line at burger king and
>that's why radio manufacturers build their radios so as to not
>transmit very far outside of the ham bands. You just can't trust
>the masses to follow policy. Ham radio is open to the masses.

Don't forget those little AC plugs with one space wider than the other.

>Out of all my ridiculous suggestions above, only a) seems to have
>any merit whatsoever. Unfortunately, too many people will continue
>to argue _for_ anarchy and so this is the structure that we're
>destined to live with. It's not that bad really, as long as you can
>simply accept it for what it is.

I would agree with this sentiment. Try to work with those who can be educated, and ignore the rest. There is no precedent on Usenet for

completely replacing an unmoderated newsgroup with a moderated one.
You'd probably want to do something like rec.radio.amateur.misc and
rec.radio.amateur.d, where the anarchy still reigns.

>-fred

73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #258
